

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01590 251706Z

45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-19 NEA-10 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 EB-11 FEA-02 INT-08 AID-20

IGA-02 /210 W

----- 030866

R 251545Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2900

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1590

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NI, UN

SUBJECT: WALDHEIM VISIT

SUMMARY: TWO-DAY WALDHEIM VISIT LEFT UNSYG IMPRESSED WITH
GOWON MODERATION ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES WHICH WERE
MAIN TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WITH NIGERIAN CHIEF OF STATE.
ONLY SPECIFIC DECISION DURING VISIT WAS FMG AGREEMENT
CONTRIBUTE TROOPS FOR UNEF IN MIDDLE EAST. END SUMMARY

1. UNSYG WALDHEIM PAID 48-HOUR VISIT TO NIGERIA FEBRUARY 21
23 IN COURSE OF NSS CURRENT TOUR OF AFRICAN STATES.
DURING HIS STAY, WALDHEIM HAD EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH
GOWON AND COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ARIKPO AND WAS
GUEST OF BOTH MEN AND OF FMG AT SOCIAL EVENTS.

2. ACCORDING UN SOURCE, WALDHEIM MEETING WITH GOWON
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 01590 251706Z

STRETCHED FROM SCHEDULED 45 MINUTES TO FULL TWO-HOUR

SESSION. UNSYG CAME AWAY HIGHLY IMPRESSED WITH GOWON'S MODERATION AND THOUGHTFULNESS ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES WHICH WERE FOCUS OF THEIR EXCHANGES. GOWON AFFIRMED STRONGLY TO WALDHEIM HAS HOPE THAT MAJORITY RULE COULD BE ACHIEVED IN SOUTHERN AFRICA THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS, AND INSISTED THAT HE HAS NOT YET GIVEN UP HOPE OF NONVIOLENT SETTLEMENT. FMG PRESS RELEASE ADDS THAT GOWON URGED UN "TO MAKE ITS PRESENCE FELT" IN NAMIBIA, URGED OIL EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT YOUNGER GENERATION OF SOUTH AFRICANS WOULD FORCE SAG TO ABANDON "OBNOXIOUS" APARTHEID.

3. GOWON AND WALDHEIM ALSO DISCUSSED MIDDLE EAST, WITH FMG HEAD OF STATE (ACCORDING TO PRESS RELEASE) CONGRATULATING SYG ON HIS SUCCESSFUL DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TOWARDS SETTLEMENT. GOWON ALSO ASSURED WALDHEIM OF GENUINENESS OF EGYPTIAN DESIRE SECURE LASTING SOLUTION. UN SOURCE REPORTS WALDHEIM TOOK OCCASION ASK GOWON FOR 700-MAN NIGERIAN CONTINGENT FOR UNEF, PRESUMABLY TO BE INSTALLED AT TIME NEXT TROOP ROTATION. ACCORDING SOURCE, GOWON AGREED IMMEDIATELY BUT INSISTED NIGERIAN CONTRIBUTION SHOULD BE AT FULL BATTALION STRENGTH OF 1800 MEN, DEMAND TO WHICH WALDHEIM REPORTEDLY ACCEDED.

4. FMG RELEASE NOTES THAT GOWON ALSO PLEDGED CONTINUED NIGERIAN SUPPORT FOR UN, PROMISE REPEATED BY ARIKPO IN HIS DINNER TOAST. GOWON ALSO ARGUED THAT UNSC MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE REVISED TO REDUCE ROLE OF FIVE PERMANENT MEMBERS, BUT THERE IS NO INDICATION IN PRESS RELEASE THAT HE OFFERED SPECIFIC ALTERNATIVE. UN SOURCE SAID GOWON ALSO (A) EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT HIS SUCCESS IN PERSUADING SEKOU TOURE TO WITHDRAW COMPLAINT AGAINST HIS NEIGHBORS FROM UNSC; AND (B) SUPPORTED ALGERIAN CALL FOR UNGA SESSION ON PRIMARY PRODUCTS AND PROMISED TO SEND HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION WITH CAREFUL INSTRUCTIONS.

5. IN AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCES ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE, WALDHEIM WAS ASKED CHIEFLY ABOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA AND DROUGHT RELIEF MEASURES. HE GAVE DETAILED EXPOSITION OF UN EFFORTS TO COMBAT DROUGHT BUT URGED THIS BE TREATED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LAGOS 01590 251706Z

ON LONG-TERM BASIS BY MODERN VERSION OF MARSHALL PLAN. ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, WALDHEIM PARTICULARLY URGED MAJOR POWERS TO GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO UN DECISIONS IN ORDER BOTH TO STRENGTHEN WORLD BODY AND TO MAKE UN DECISIONS MORE EFFECTIVE IN BRINGING ABOUT DESIRED CHANGES IN AREA.

6. COMMENT: BOTH SIDES EVIDENTLY PLEASED WITH VISIT, WHICH SHOULD FURTHER ENHANCE GOWON'S STANDING AT LEAST ON

UN STAGE. GOWON'S INSISTENCE ON CONTRIBUTING FULL
BATTALION TO UNEF PRESUMABLY BASED IN PART ON MILITARY
JUDGEMENT OF DESIRABILITY HAVING COMPLETE UNIT, BUT
PERHAPS ALSO IN PART ON INTEREST IN MAKING SURE THAT FMG
CONTINGENT IS AFRICA'S LARGEST IN KEEPING WITH NIGERIA'S
SELF-IMAGE OF LEADERSHIP.

REINHARDT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECRETARY GENERAL, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, APARTHEID, PETROLEUM, MEMBERSHIP, DISASTER RELIEF, VISITS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, PEACE TALKS, EMB ARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: rowelle0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LAGOS01590
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740212/aaaaakpn.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: rowelle0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30-Sep-2002 by rowelle0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WALDHEIM VISIT SUMMARY: TWO-DAYWALDHEIM VISIT LEFT UNSYG IMPRESSED WITH
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, NI, UN, UNSC, UNEF, (WALDHEIM, KURT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005